## EXHIBIT H

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(Proceedings commenced at 2:00 p.m.) 1 THE CLERK: All rise. 2 THE COURT: Good afternoon, please be seated. 3 4 Mr. Merchant, great to see you. Happy new year. 5 MR. MERCHANT: Good to see you, Your Honor. Good 6 afternoon. 7 THE COURT: Okay. Well, go ahead, please, 8 Mr. Merchant. Sorry for --9 MR. MERCHANT: Sure. 10 For the record, Michael Merchant of Richards, Layton & Finger, on behalf of the Ligado debtors. 11 12 Your Honor, we are co-counsel to the debtors. 13 Thank you to your new chambers for accommodating 14 all of our requests, particularly on a day when the court was 15 closed and scheduling this first day hearing. 16 My co-counsel are on Zoom today, and I already see 17 Mr. Leblanc. He'll be providing the Court with an 18 introduction, so I'll cede the podium to him at this point. 19 THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. Merchant. 20 MR. MERCHANT: Thank you. 21 THE COURT: Mr. Leblanc, welcome. 22 MR. LEBLANC: Thank you, Your Honor. 23 Andrew Leblanc of Milbank. 24 Your Honor, can you hear me? 25 THE COURT: I can.

MR. LEBLANC: And can you see me okay?

THE COURT: I sure can.

MR. LEBLANC: It's always an adventure getting set up for these Zoom hearings, Your Honor. Every court is a little different. Every Zoom is a little different. But, as long as Your Honor can hear me, then I will proceed.

Your Honor, we are counsel, we at Milbank, are counsel, proposed counsel to the debtors in this case, Ligado Networks LLC and its various affiliates. Let me echo Mr. Merchant's thanks to the Court, your staff, and chambers for accommodating us on this hearing, on the first day hearing. Your Honor's chambers have been very, very accommodating to us, particularly, when I know that the entire Mid-Atlantic region is dealing with a massive snowstorm. I know, for example, my kids have been home the last two days, and so we very much appreciate the Court accommodating us and, in particular, allowing us to appear at a hybrid hearing here, via Zoom. So thank you, Your Honor.

THE COURT: My pleasure.

MR. LEBLANC: I'd also like to extend our thanks, on behalf of my team, to the Office of the United States

Trustee. They have worked tirelessly with us, Your Honor.

We've coordinated closely with them, up leading into the filing, and even since then, they've provided us comments on our first day pleadings and subsequent to the filing of

those, even comments on motions. 1 2 And I think -- we are hopeful today, Your Honor, 3 that we'll have a hearing that will be without controversy, 4 in large part, because of the efforts that they and the 5 stakeholders in this case put in to bring us to this hearing. 6 If it's okay with the Court, what I'd like to do, 7 Your Honor, is just do an introduction to the Court of the 8 debtors. We have a slide deck and we'll go through, probably spend 20 minutes to 30 minutes introducing the Court to these 9 10 debtors and the path forward, and then we'll turn to the motions and seek relief. And for that, Your Honor, I'll 11 12 turn -- I'll be ceding the podium to a number of my colleagues here in our conference room with us. 13 14 THE COURT: Okay. 15 MR. LEBLANC: Is that -- is Your Honor okay with us proceeding that way? 16 17 THE COURT: Yes, I am. 18 MR. LEBLANC: Thank you, Your Honor. 19 I'm going to ask my colleague Dani Lee Sauer to 20 share a presentation that we have. 21 MR. MERCHANT: Would Your Honor like a hard copy? 22 THE COURT: I've got it on screen. 23 Thank you, Mr. Merchant. I appreciate it.

MR. LEBLANC: And, Your Honor, before we get into

this, let me just -- as Your Honor, no doubt, has seen, we

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filed this case with a restructuring support agreement that is supported by an overwhelming percentage of Ligado's existing stakeholders, holding approximately 88 percent of Ligado's funded debt. The RSA has really two key elements. The first is the restructuring. There's a balance sheet restructuring of the capital structure that, as we come over levered in light of circumstances that I'll describe in a moment, and the restructuring support agreement contemplates a deleveraging of the company by over \$7.8 billion with what is really quite extraordinary, the agreement by those lenders to keep in place the existing waterfall; meaning, all of the preferred equity, all of the common stock will stay in place and will be entitled to recover, consistent with the waterfall that has been in existence since Ligado's last bankruptcy in 2015 and I'll talk about in a moment. So the preferred and the common equity will retain their place in the capital structure.

The second component of the RSA, and this is as critical, if not more critical than the first, Your Honor, is that we are very pleased to be here with a commercial agreement with AST SpaceMobile, who's also a party to the RSA. AST SpaceMobile is a counterparty that we will engage with, Your Honor, that will give usage rights to Ligado spectrum to use on their existing and to-be-built satellite network. And in doing so, Your Honor, we are making the best

of a difficult situation and using the mobile satellite services component of Ligado's vast spectrum network to monetize and commercialize that for the first time ever. And when I say, "the first time ever," to be clear, the first time at the scale that we're doing it. And I'll talk more about that in a moment.

So, let me just turn, Your Honor, to the slide deck. So let me first begin by introducing you to the company, Your Honor.

If we could turn to Slide 2.

So, Your Honor, this is what I'll go through. I'm going to go through a company overview, talk about the company and its capital structure, the events leading to the Chapter 11 filing, and then what is our path forward. But before I even talk about the company overview, Your Honor, just two other quick points that I'm going to come back to, just to explain what causes us to be before the Court today.

First, and I mentioned we're making the best of a difficult situation, a year ago, Your Honor, the company commenced litigation against the United States Government for the unlawful taking of Ligado's terrestrial component of its spectrum assets. That suit was commenced in the Court of Federal Claims and it is seeking damages in the amount of \$39 billion, Your Honor, which that is our estimate of the value of the terrestrial spectrum assets that have been taken by

the Government in a secret program.

The Government had filed a motion to dismiss back in January of 2024, but in November of 2024, the Court of Federal Claims substantially denied that motion. It granted only one small part of that, but preserved the overwhelming majority of most of our claims. I'll talk about that case in a little bit, again, Your Honor, I'll return to that.

But most importantly, you know, Your Honor, we are not asking this Court to do anything with respect to that litigation; in fact, one of the key elements of our bankruptcy is to make sure that we do nothing to interfere with the continuation of that litigation in the Court of Federal Claims. But that -- the Government's decision to effectively squat on our spectrum and to use the spectrum assets that we have been authorized by the FCC to use since 2022 is one of the precipitating events to the reasons that we are here.

The second driving force, Your Honor, to our filing is our relationship with Inmarsat and their actions leading up to this filing and what we believe to be a breach of the cooperation agreement between us. Inmarsat — throughout the day, Your Honor, I might refer to Inmarsat and I may refer to Viasat. Those are one in the same because they merged, those two companies merged together in late 2023 and so we've been most recently dealing with Viasat, but the

contracts that we have in place, the cooperation agreement itself is actually with Inmarsat and that is a 2007 vintage contract.

Pursuant to that contract, the parties agreed to coordinate their use of the L-band spectrum, which is the spectrum assets that we control today. Each of them were assigned separate parts of that spectrum, but the coordination agreement provides that Ligado could use the vast majority of that. And in return, Ligado has paid to Inmarsat, and now Viasat, enormous amounts of money over the course of that contract. We've paid, to date, over \$1.7 billion to Viasat or Inmarsat.

And in our view, Your Honor, Viasat has not kept up its end of the bargain. And, Your Honor, we filed a complaint just a short time ago. Nothing to be done in today's hearing with respect to that.

Our co-counsel at Mayer Brown, representing
Ligado, filed that complaint. That complaint was filed under
seal. We'll work through the process with that, Your Honor.
But I'm going to not speak more about that issue now because
that'll be, obviously, an issue for another day.

But what's relevant for today and the precipitating event here, Your Honor, as to what brings us to this filing is we do have outstanding payments under that coordination agreement that are due to Inmarsat or Viasat and

those are coming due. We've negotiated for the last 18 months with Viasat in the hopes of reaching a commercial transaction. That proved unsuccessful when a tax issue came up several months ago that was unexpected and unanticipated by us and that really threw the entire negotiations that we've been engaged in for more than a year, up in the air.

And so we rushed to get the next best alternative and we are very pleased to have found the transaction that we have before the Court today with AST, which we think is our best effort to maximize value in light of both, the Government's actions and Viasat's actions.

So, Your Honor, that's what led us here today, but let me now go backwards and just introduce you to the company.

So if we could turn to the next slide?

Your Honor, on the screen is the photos of the executive team at Ligado and its board of managers and I just want to highlight a couple of things. As I mentioned, Your Honor, Ligado went through a bankruptcy in the Southern District of New York in 2000 -- they filed in 2012 and emerged in 2015 before Judge Shelley Chapman in the Southern District of New York.

Many of the people that you see on the screen and the executive team, Your Honor, were people who were there at that time. Doug Smith is the CEO of the company; legacy,

long-term telecommunications expert; worked at Nextel; and has been at the helm of Ligado since just before that bankruptcy filing in 2012. I was very honored to put Mr. Smith on the stand in the bankruptcy case in front of Judge Chapman and I'll be honored to do so, again, here today. Mr. Smith is also our first day declarant.

Eric Harrington is the company's chief financial officer. He was also the company's treasurer back in 2015 when the company went through that bankruptcy.

Scott Wiener has been leading the charge on our commercial negotiations with AST, with Viasat.

Sachin Chhibber, Your Honor -- and that is not a typo in his name; there are two Hs -- C-h-h-i-b-b-e-r, he's the company's chief technical officer.

And Ms. Vicky McPherson is the company's general counsel.

And, Your Honor, I believe all those people are on the line. I won't have them come on the screen. But Your Honor is going to hear from Mr. Smith. You'll at least be asked to accept his declaration in a few minutes, and I trust Your Honor has had an opportunity to at least peruse his very lengthy first day declaration.

Your Honor, before I leave this page, I did want to mention the board of managers. So, we're an LLC, so it's a board of managers, but this is a world-class board of

directors for this company. These are some of the leading lights in the telecommunications industry. Your Honor can see, just by the descriptions. The chairman of the company is the former chairman of Verizon Communications. The former vice chairman of Verizon Communications is also a member of our board. We have two military flag officers, including one of whom was the former administrator of NASA. We have a former chairman of the Federal Communications Commission. This is a world-class board that's been operating this company since the last bankruptcy, since 2015, and leading it to where we sit today.

If we turn the page, Your Honor, just quickly, Your Honor has already met Richards Layton, who's our cocounsel in the case, Mr. Collins and Mr. Merchant are there in the courtroom with you. Milbank is the company's counsel with respect to the bankruptcy. There are also other counsel. I mentioned Mayer Brown, as well as a number of lawyers who are working on the litigation against the Government.

In addition, Your Honor, Perella Weinberg Partners is the company's investment banker. Bruce Mendelsohn is the company's declarant, with respect to the DIP, and Your Honor will see him a little bit later in my presentation. FTI is our financial advisor and Omni is aware claims and noticing agent, and Your Honor will be asked to consider a motion,

with respect to their retention later in today's hearing.

If we turn the page, Your Honor, and I'll try to be brief with this, Your Honor. Going through the history of this company, you could do so in many, many hours, but let me try to be relatively brief with this, Your Honor.

As I mentioned a moment ago, the company emerged from bankruptcy in 2015 with a plan to deploy a next-generation satellite services business, coupled with a terrestrial wireless solution. That was intended to capture a market that was growing for wireless communication services.

Everything we predicted about the addressable market at that time turned out to be more than true, Your Honor. Ligado's spectrum is in prime position to capitalize on the terrestrial use of spectrum.

When I say, "terrestrial," Your Honor, that is, you know, the cell phones that we use communicate on a terrestrial-spectrum basis. They communicate from your cell phone to a cell tower and that's the terrestrial use of the spectrum.

Ligado's spectrum has always been authorized for MSS, mobile satellite services. So that is communicating from a device or a base station on the ground to a satellite that's flying up in the air. But Ligado was unique in that starting in 2004, it applied for and was granted for the

authorization to use its mobile satellite spectrum in connection with an ancillary terrestrial component, or "ATC," which I may refer to throughout the day.

It was authorized to use the spectrum in that way, so it was primed coming out of the last bankruptcy, to exploit the boom in the use of spectrum. So we expected at the time of the last bankruptcy that we were going to be the market leader in deploying on 5G. And, Your Honor, there's a particular set of attributes with respect to the Ligado spectrum that make that quite attractive, and I'll talk about that in a moment.

What happened, Your Honor, is we had a number of technical issues. When we emerged from bankruptcy in 2015, there were a number of technical issues that we had to address because lids spectrum sits close to the GPS spectrum. And so from 2015 to 2020, the company went through a tireless effort with the FCC to answer all concerns with respect to its spectrum use on a terrestrial basis and, ultimately, in 2020, the FCC granted on a unanimous basis, the ATC license for Ligado to use its spectrum on a terrestrial basis.

Your Honor, we achieved something in 2020. Ligado achieved something in 2020 that is virtually unheard of. In connection with that granting of the ATC license, we were actually able to restructuring our entire balance sheet, and

Your Honor is going to see that balance sheet in a moment, on an out-of-court basis. We obtained consent from 100 percent of our secured creditors, 100 percent of our preferred equity, and 100 percent of our common equity in reaching a restructuring, without ever having to file for bankruptcy in 2020.

And the reason for that was clear. Ligado, at that time, was off to the races, because we had this terrestrial authorization and we were in the process of and at the point where we were going to go and exploit that and make that -- utilize something that, again, Your Honor, as I mentioned at the outset, we believe is worth close to \$40 billion, this spectrum. And when we say, "close to \$40 billion," that's just by comparing it to similar spectrum, which, as I said a moment ago, in many respects, this is even better than that.

After 2020, Your Honor, we became aware of -there were some continued concerns. There were requests for
reconsideration at the FCC, but ultimately, we became aware
that the Government was using -- and when I say, "the
Government," in particular, the Department of Defense, was
using our spectrum, the terrestrial component of our spectrum
in a way that was never disclosed, that they never raised,
and they continue even to this day, as a classified system.

When we learned of that, Your Honor, there was a

number of efforts made to try to resolve those issues through negotiations, through lobbying. Ultimately, we were unable to do that and after spending, literally, years, and, literally, billions of dollars to put ourselves in a position to exploit our -- to monetize and commercialize our terrestrial spectrum, we were forced to sue the U.S. Government for the takings that I just described.

So on October 12th of 2023, Ligado commenced the lawsuit that I described earlier. As I mentioned, that lawsuit is still in its relative infancy. The Government's answer is now due on February 3rd because the Government moved to dismiss and as I said, that motion to dismiss was substantially denied. That was a significant win for Ligado.

And as I said, and I'll continue to repeat it, because it's one of the most important things here, nothing in this bankruptcy is designed to interrupt with, interfere, slow down, delay, even by a minute, the progress of that government litigation. We want that to continue in the Court of Federal Claims and that's what we absolutely intend to do.

Now, Your Honor, just to give Your Honor a sense, if we turn to the next slide, Your Honor, this is the company's spectrum now. The items in blue are the company's -- the spectrum that the company controls pursuant to its coordination agreement, most of which is controlled by Ligado, some of which comes through the coordination

agreement. But this is all of the spectrum that Ligado has usage rights over.

And there's a significant portion, 30 megahertz of this, leaving aside the lower-bottom, right-corner box that I'll describe in a second, 30 megahertz of this has been authorized by the FCC for ATC use. This is the subject of the Government litigation. This is the portion that we are trying desperately to use and we're suing the Government for taking it from us.

Now, Your Honor, I used an analogy with Judge Chapman 10 years ago, now, when we were in the confirmation hearing, because it's hard to think about spectrum in a way and how valuable it is, but what I can tell the Court, and I know Judge Chapman, I think, found this useful and agreed with it at the time, what Ligado has, Your Honor, is, effectively, among the most ideal beachfront property in the world. Ligado has a 30 megahertz continuous block, uplink and downlink of spectrum that it can use on a nationwide basis. And it is in a part of the spectrum band that is ideal for telephony, for telecommunication services.

And that's because, Your Honor, it sits at about 1.5 megahertz and that spectrum at that frequency propagates extraordinarily well. It's not too short, so I can go very far. It can spread very far; you don't need as many towers. And it's not too long, such that it can't

penetrate into buildings. It's kind of at the ideal space on the spectrum map. It is the premier beachfront property for these purposes. That's why the company is so valuable and why its assets are so valuable.

What we engaged in, Your Honor, when we emerged from bankruptcy in 2015 to 2020, the closest analogy I could come up with is we essentially had a zoning dispute and we had to go through the process and deal with the Zoning Board. In this example, in this analogy, our Zoning Board is the FCC. We needed to get authorization from the FCC to use it on a terrestrial basis and to deal with all the people who were objecting that the road was too close to the beach or that there'd be too much traffic and too many cars going down the road.

We dealt with all those issues and ultimately got the Zoning Board, the FCC in our case, to authorize us to use that spectrum on an ATC basis in a unanimous decision. That license authorization has not changed. It's not been abated. It's not been suspended. It continues in existence today.

But, Your Honor, the Government actions, what those constitute is we learned after getting that zoning approval in 2020 that the Government was doing some confidential, classified, clandestine program on our land and wouldn't let us build the world-class resort that we were authorized by our Zoning Board to do. And, Your Honor,

that's what that litigation is about.

We have -- the asset that we have here is the premier, among the most ideal spectrum you could imagine and we're being prevented from using it because the Government is squatting in our spectrum.

Now, what we've been able to do with the AST transaction, Your Honor, that's where the analogy kind of stops, because the AST transaction is not like we're using a corner of our property or something like that. That understates the importance of that transaction. The AST transaction that's part of the RSA, that utilizes only the MSS component of our spectrum.

Ligado has, for 25 years, used the satellite component of its spectrum to operate a business and that business does not have a significant amount of revenue. It is not a self-sustaining business because the company's invested billions of dollars in striving for the terrestrial component use, but the MSS spectrum assets, we're making the best of those and we're very excited about the opportunity that comes with the AST transaction.

As we've all become more mobile and the technology has improved, there are real opportunities for direct-to-device exploitation of spectrum like ours, and so AST has reached an agreement with us it's going to -- and I'll talk about it in a second -- that's going to pay us real value for

the use of the MSS component of our spectrum. It is not touching, however, the terrestrial component of the spectrum; that is entirely the subject of the Government litigation.

And that's where the analogy falls apart because there's not really an analog as it comes to beachfront property.

But I think the analog, just to try to visualize what we're talking about here is we really have the best of the best property and we've been unable to use it because of the Government's actions.

If we turn to the next slide, Your Honor, and this is the last slide that I have on the background of the business, we do operate an existing satellite network. That network uses a satellite that's launched in the sky, SkyTerra 1. That was launched even before our last bankruptcy, Your Honor, in November of 2020 -- I'm sorry -- 2010. And it's been operating and functioning in orbit since 2011.

SkyTerra 1 is one of the most advanced satellites that has ever been launched. We have a second satellite that is in storage right now, Your Honor. Those two satellites were built by Boeing. Boeing is one of the very few unsecured creditors that are at issue here, and I'll talk about that in a moment.

But importantly, Your Honor, we currently have a satellite network that uses a geostationary satellite with

our existing spectrum assets, using them on an MSS basis, so satellite communication to base stations in Ottawa,

Saskatoon, Napa, and Dallas, which allows us to cover all of North America, as you can see there on the map. And we have a backup satellite sitting on the ground in a storage facility.

So, Your Honor, that's the company. That's what it does. Let me turn to the corporate structure and the capital structure.

Your Honor, the company structure, this is what emerged from bankruptcy last time. Each of these entities that you see here before the -- on this chart are Delaware -- I'm sorry -- are companies that are in bankruptcy both, here and in a parallel proceeding that we filed in Canada. We will be seeking appointment of a foreign representative to file a recognition proceeding in Canada with respect to these assets in the Ontario Court of Justice.

Your Honor, this is a complicated capital structure that has been borne out of years of efforts to commercialize these assets. The capital structure, at its core, came out of the last bankruptcy. The last bankruptcy, Your Honor, had tremendous support from its creditors and ultimately resulted in an emergence where equity substantially stayed in the money. And so you've had -- and as I mentioned a moment ago,

Your Honor, we had a restructuring out of court in 2020 where the capital structure stayed substantially in place, just moved down into a new series of preferred equity.

But the company has an enormous amount of debt today, Your Honor. When you look at the secured debt, it's over \$8 billion of secured debt both, on a first, in a 1.5 and a second lien basis. And it has a series of preferred equity units, much of which were converted from debt in both, the prior bankruptcy and in the 2020 restructuring.

The capital structure has grown to the size it is because, Your Honor, we have not paid interest since the bankruptcy. All of these facilities have been paid in kind. So, no creditor has taken any dollars out of this. All we've done throughout the years is continue to PIK interest in anticipation of being able to monetize these assets in the way that we hope to do some.

Your Honor, what's not reflected on this page but what I will mention, and I know would be important to the Court, is the unsecured creditor body. Your Honor, we filed, with our petitions, a list of the top 30 creditors. The two largest, Your Honor, are Inmarsat, who I already talked about for whom there is a complaint that we filed with respect to, and Boeing. I mention them as well, they are the satellite manufacturer and they are both -- both of those claims, Your Honor, are contingent, unliquidated, disputed claims that we

will have to resolve as part of this bankruptcy.

Not listed on the top 30 but, Your Honor, is Crown Castle which -- and, actually, now that I say that I forgot, Your Honor, back on the Spectrum chart, we don't need to go back to it, but in addition to the spectrum that is the subject of the government litigation we also, Your Honor, lease Spectrum at 1670 to 1675 megahertz, that is detailed in Mr. Smith's declaration, from an entity called Crown Castle. Pursuant to that lease approximately \$150,000 of lease payments became due prepetition when a payment was due on January 1st. So, we will deal with the Crown Castle issue not at today's hearing but in the very near term.

Under our RSA, Your Honor, those are the only three specified ones. There are three additional creditors on our unsecured creditors list totaling less than \$40,000 but the RSA includes a provision that anticipates that all of the unsecured creditors are going to ride through unimpaired. So, there will be some disputes that Your Honor will have to resolve in particular with respect to Inmarsat and potentially with respect to Boeing but, otherwise, it's our expectation that the very few number of creditors that we do have on a prepetition basis will ride through unimpaired.

So, Your Honor, the capital structure, while its very complicated, as I mentioned in the RSA it's going to stay largely intact with most of the debt that you see on

there. Any debt that is not being refinanced, and that is the first out term loans that are being refinanced as part of the DIP, being moved down into an equity position and with the anticipation that the company will emerge with only the DIP rolling into an exit facility so that the entirety of the balance sheet coming out of bankruptcy on a debt basis will consist of the DIP and its fees. The DIP, its rollup, and the fees associated with that.

Your Honor, if we turn the page, we have had the great pleasure to work with lenders who are unbelievably supportive of this company. They have been for years and they continue to be to this day. They are represented by Sidley Austin who is counsel to a group of first lien only debt holders and Kirkland & Ellis who represents a group of cross holders across much of the capital structure. Foley, Jones Day and Seward & Kissel represent certain of the trustees and agents with respect to our debt facility.

As I said, Your Honor, when you file a case with over 88 percent of your debt holders supporting the restructuring you have tremendous cooperation from those lenders and when you do an out of court restructuring, as we did in 2020 that garnered 100 percent support, you know you have a supportive group of creditors and this company could not be more fortunate to have that.

If we turn the page, Your Honor, I have mentioned

this and I won't spend a lot of time here on it but we do
have -- one of our primary counterparties is Inmarsat. They
have -- notice of appearance was filed yesterday, Your Honor,
by Davis Jones from Pachulski represented with co-counsel at
Quinn Emanuel and Steptoe & Johnson representing Inmarsat.
They are one of our key counterparties, Your Honor.

As I mentioned, we did file litigation with respect to what we believe to be breaches of the cooperation agreement by Viasat. I will also just -- Mr. Smith details this in his declaration but, Your Honor, we did engage for months -- frankly, years we have been engaged in negotiations to try to adjust the cooperation agreement to reflect both what we believe to be breaches and changes in the environment that were necessary to make adjustments there and we thought we had come to an agreement in the September timeframe.

Unfortunately, at that point in time, we learned of a tax issue that Viasat, Inmarsat and Viasat, had not previously thought of and that really pulled the rug out from under us to a great extent and we were forced to then go and begin negotiations to try to find some alternative way to satisfy the contact with Viasat. That is really what we did and what brought us here with AST.

Throughout that period of time, we engaged -- we continued to engage with Viasat, even bringing potential counterparties to them to have a triparty negotiation in an

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effort to try to come to a resolution. That is not the case with AST, Your Honor. We -- they have not been engaged in negotiations with Viasat and that is the party that we found the most compelling opportunity with to bring before the Court.

Your Honor, just to summarize on the next slide the timeline of events, I think I have gone through everything that is on this slide. So, I won't belabor it but as a summary, Your Honor, as early as 2004 we filed the -- we obtained authorization to use our spectrum on a terrestrial basis. In 2012 that authorization was suspended leading to the first bankruptcy filing. In 2015 we emerged from bankruptcy and then in 2020 we got the SEC final authorization to allow us to use the Spectrum on a terrestrial basis. That is what then led to us discover that the government who was objecting after the SEC had approved it -- when I say the government I mean the Department of Defense and the Department of Commerce. The Department of Defense, in particular, was using our Spectrum in a way without providing us with compensation. So, that is what led to that October filing for bankruptcy and then ultimately the denial of the motion to dismiss.

If we turn the page, Your Honor, I think I have talked enough about this at this point to not go into it more because that -- Your Honor is not going to be asked to

resolve this litigation but needless to say when you file a \$39 billion takings claim it is a very important thing for the company. So, this is the company's most important asset and we will do everything we can to make sure that that is preserved and prosecuted for the benefit of all of the stakeholders.

Lastly, Your Honor, we just simply find ourselves with an unsustainable capital structure in light of our obligations and our ability to monetize our assets. So, that is what brought us here today, Your Honor.

Let me turn now to where are we going, what is our path forward. So, Your Honor, we have four guiding principles for this bankruptcy or four objectives. First is, as I have said a number of times, we will continue to pursue the lawsuit against the United States Government to obtain compensation for the taking of Ligado's Spectrum. That is objective number one.

Objective number two, Your Honor, we have filed our RSA with a term sheet, with AST Space Mobile. We have a very aggressive timeline to get that to definitive documentation, seek approval by the Court and ultimately to consummate that transaction. I will talk about the milestones in connection with that in a moment.

Third, we need to deal with our claims that have been filed just today against Inmarsat and resolve what cure

amounts may be due, if any, to Inmarsat in connection with the cooperation agreement.

Fourth is to complete the balance sheet restructuring. That has already been agreed to by our creditors and is reflected in the RSA.

Those are the objectives, Your Honor. Let me just walk through how we are going to get there. So, first, as I mentioned, we have an RSA. Your Honor is not being asked to do anything with respect to the RSA today. The RSA does include some of the terms of the various relief that we are requesting. So, for example, the DIP that we are requesting is referenced and contemplated in the RSA but the RSA has the restructuring that I described but it also incorporates the AST commercial agreement.

If we turn to the next page, Your Honor, I do want to just highlight for the Court some of the milestones that are put -- that are in the -- I'm sorry, the RSA. Your Honor, we filed today, not in connection with the first days, a motion seeking approval of a breakup fee for the AST transaction. Your Honor has provided us with a hearing date on January 27th for that and we appreciate that. That is inside the milestone -- the 22-day milestone that we have agreed to with AST.

We have requested -- we are seeking entry of the interim DIP order. We have a milestone with respect to the

final DIP order where the rest of the relief would be granted. We have given ourselves, Your Honor, 75 days to negotiate the definitive documentation with AST in connection with the commercial transaction. That part we understand is very aggressive. This is a complicated thing. I have no idea how to do it. I am not the one who is going to be negotiating it but we are going to do everything we can to negotiate that in that period of time.

Then, Your Honor, we are going to very quickly thereafter, in connection with negotiating those documents, file a plan, hope to get to confirmation of that plan within 110 days of the -- I'm sorry, get to a disclosure statement within 110 days of the petition date and then get entry of a confirmation order within 145 days.

Your Honor, the last milestone there may be eye opening to the Court but we do have a very long period from the confirmation order until the effective date. We are going to move to that as quickly as we can but there are a number of regulatory preconditions to the effective date and we have given ourselves an enormous amount of time to try to do that so that the RSA and the commercial agreement provide 40 months after the petition date to get those regulatory approvals. So, we are going to move quickly, Your Honor, to get to confirmation, ask the Court to approve a plan that, as I said, is already supported by over 88 percent

of our lenders, and then we are going to run a huge number of regulatory hurdles to emerge from bankruptcy, things that are necessary for that commercial agreement to take effect.

Your Honor, you are going to hear from one of my colleagues in a moment about the -- oh, I'm sorry, go back one page. As I mentioned, Your Honor, this just illustrates the level of support that we have. Let me be clear, we only expressly sought support from the lenders because we believe the preferred equity holders and the common equity holders that they are unimpaired by this because they are simply staying in place. The debt that is in front of them already is moving, under the RSA, as preferred equity for the most part and a portion of it will remain as DIP.

With cross holdings and with the direct support of the lending groups this is the level of support that our RSA that was filed with the Court already has. To be clear, Your Honor, we are not aware of any one in the capital structure who doesn't support this plan. What I mean by that is there is no -- there are no objecting stakeholders on the funded debt or the equity or the preferred equity side. It simply is impossible to reach everybody given the size of the capital structure and the time that we had. We expect these numbers to grow over time. We think this will be an overwhelmingly supported plan when we bring it before the Court for approval on a disclosure statement basis.

Your Honor, I will preview just briefly the debtor-in-possession financing facility that we have. My colleague, Abigail Debold, is going to present this to the Court in a few minutes but just to preview this is what we have negotiated with our creditors, Your Honor. On an interim basis it's a very small amount of funding of \$12 million.

The DIP, itself, is going to do two things: it's going to fund up to \$115 million on an up to 12-month DIP, although there is interim periods associated with that, and then in addition to that, Your Honor, its going to refinance out the first lien, first out facility.

Your Honor, that first lien first out facility has been the, effectively, rescue financing that this company has been living off of for the last almost two years where lenders have agreed to step up on a first lien first out basis and provide the funding that the company needs. So, we are going to take that facility out with this loan and then roll up some additional debt. Your Honor, the roll up and the refinancing are not being asked of this Court today. So, Ms. Debold is going to talk about it more in detail but I just wanted to make the Court aware of that.

Importantly, Your Honor, again we have the support of 88 percent of the lenders. There is a backstop for this but it will be offered to all of the first lien lenders ratably to participate in this.

So, Your Honor, that is my presentation to you of the company. If we could go to the next slide. Our first day agenda we filed with the Court, Your Honor, and these are the items that we intend to go through. What I would like to do at this time, Your Honor, is I would propose to introduce the two declarations that we are going to rely upon in connection with the first day hearing and then I will handle, I have been asked to cover the joint administration motion anticipating that to be a flurry of activity.

THE COURT: Okay.

MR. LEBLANC: So, Your Honor, unless you have any questions, I would be happy to move in our evidence.

THE COURT: Yeah, let's go onto the evidence please.

MR. LEBLANC: So, Your Honor, the first day pleadings are substantially supported by the declaration of Douglas Smith, which was filed at Docket No. 2. As I mentioned earlier, Mr. Smith is on the Zoom line. I would -- I think Mr. Smith can turn his camera on.

THE COURT: Good afternoon, Mr. Smith.

MR. SMITH: Good afternoon, Your Honor.

MR. LEBLANC: Your Honor, Doug Smith is the company's CEO. He is also our first day declarant. He is here on the Zoom and, Your Honor, we would offer Docket No. 2, Mr. Smith's declaration, into evidence as his direct

1 testimony. THE COURT: Does anybody object to the admission 2 of Mr. Smith's declaration for the purposes of today's 3 hearing? 4 5 MS. DAVIS JONES: Good afternoon, Your Honor. 6 Laura Davis Jones of Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones. Your 7 Honor, appearing in these cases with Fred Reisner from the 8 Steptoe firm and also Ben Finestone from Quinn Emanuel. 9 Your Honor, I rise simply with respect to this 10 declaration as well as Mr. Mendelsohn's declaration, we would 11 ask that they be admitted only for purposes of today's hearing and nothing further than that. 12 13 THE COURT: Okay, very good. The declarations are being moved for the purpose of today's hearing only. 14 15 MS. DAVIS JONES: Thank you, Your Honor. THE COURT: Thank you, Ms. Jones. 16 17 Are there -- is there anybody else who wishes to 18 make any statements regarding the admission of Mr. Smith's declaration? 19 20 (No verbal response) 21 THE COURT: Okay, I hear no response. It is 22 admitted for the purposes of today's hearing only. 23 (Smith declaration received into evidence) 24 MR. LEBLANC: Thank you, Your Honor. 25 THE COURT: I'm sorry, let me ask, is there anyone

1 who wants to cross-examine Mr. Smith? 2 MS. DAVIS JONES: No thank you. 3 THE COURT: Okay. MR. LEBLANC: Thank you, Your Honor. Your Honor, 4 5 the second declarant, and I will ask Mr. Mendelsohn to come 6 on the line, is Bruce Mendelsohn of Perella Weinberg 7 Partners. We submitted a declaration in support of the DIP motion by Mr. Mendelsohn at Docket No. 6. Your Honor, we would offer Mr. Mendelsohn's declaration at Docket No. 6 as 9 10 his direct testimony subject to the same reservation that Ms. Davis Jones just stated. 11 12 THE COURT: Okay. Is there anybody who objects to 13 the admission of Mr. Mendelsohn's declaration for the 14 purposes of today's hearing only? 15 (No verbal response) THE COURT: Okay, I hear no response. It is 16 17 admitted. 18 (Mendelsohn declaration received into evidence) 19 THE COURT: Is there anyone who would like to 20 cross-examine Mr. Mendelsohn? 21 (No verbal response) 22 THE COURT: Okay, I hear no response. 23 MR. LEBLANC: Thank you, Your Honor. Your Honor, that concludes our presentation of evidence with respect to 24 25 the first day hearings.

As a housekeeping matter, Your Honor, I will 1 2 present our joint administration motion which is at Docket No. 3. When I stood up here it had not been entered but, 3 Your Honor, we would ask for joint administration for 4 5 procedural purposes only of the 11 separate cases that we filed. 6 7 THE COURT: Is there anybody who would like to be 8 heard regarding the joint administration motion? 9 Mr. Hackman, good afternoon. 10 MR. HACKMAN: Good afternoon, Your Honor. 11 please the Court, Ben Hackman for the U.S. Trustee. 12 I rise to confirm that we have no objection to entry of this order and to confirm that our comments on the 13 other first day motions have been resolved. I thank counsel 14 15 for working with us on it. THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. Hackman. 16 17 Okay, the joint administration motion, of course, 18 is routine and it is granted. 19 MS. DAVIS JONES: Your Honor, if I may on behalf 20 of Inmarsat. 21 THE COURT: Yes, Ms. Jones. 22 MS. DAVIS JONES: Your Honor, likewise, with 23 respect to not just this motion but the other motions, Your 24 Honor, we appreciate that they are interim in nature, I think

all for the most part. We will not be objecting today on the

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basis of an interim basis, Your Honor, but I clearly wanted to reserve all of our rights to revisit issues at a final hearing on any of these motions including the DIP financing. I didn't want our silence to be deemed acquiescence to any final relief.

Your Honor, I had a few other comments I wanted to make in response to Mr. Leblanc that are very short now if that would be okay with the Court or I can do it later.

THE COURT: Now is fine, Ms. Jones.

MS. JONES: Thank you, Your Honor. Your Honor, as you likely read in the declaration and, obviously, heard today, and I am going to stay at a very high level, the debtors have been in a cooperation agreement with Inmarsat since 2007 which gives the debtors access to a valuable satellite, Spectrum.

The cooperation agreement is a contract for allocating rights to Spectrum, which is the lifeblood of the satellite business. There is a limited Spectrum and the FCC generally requires licensees to coordinate with other satellite operators authorized to use the same Spectrum by other national governments. In this case, Ligado's FCC Spectrum license requires that it coordinate with other operators like Inmarsat which holds a license from the United Kingdom's Office of Communications.

The cooperation agreement I referenced gives the

debtor access to satellite Spectrum that Inmarsat could, otherwise, use for its own business and that Inmarsat has vacated to honor its commitment to make the Spectrum available to Ligado. No party, Your Honor, has supported this debtor more than Inmarsat has. For more than eight years prior to this filing Inmarsat agreed to amend the cooperation agreements to accommodate the debtors and to defer payments under the contract, just as Inmarsat did prior to Ligado's previous bankruptcy filing a decade ago.

Inmarsat, Your Honor, is owed approximately \$500 million from the debtor making it likely the largest creditor in this case. Inmarsat continues to be owed money on a quarterly basis post-petition making the Spectrum available to the debtor with respect to which we are reserving all rights. Your Honor, the bankruptcy filing came as a surprise. Inmarsat did not know Ligado was filing yesterday. This is disturbing but, obviously, we are reaching out and talking to the debtor to see if we can reach an understanding of what is going on and look forward to moving forward.

Needless to say, Your Honor, and despite what is said in the declaration, Inmarsat is not the cause of the debtors financial distress and, in fact, the cause is the debtors inability to conduct its business. Your Honor, I do not know where our conversations are going to go. The debtors RSA referenced a draft complaint prepared with respect to our

client and, again, Your Honor, on surprise we received right before this hearing a complaint that has been filed under seal. We asked for a copy, I received it right before the hearing but have not had a chance to review it.

Your Honor, the cooperation agreement is a vital component of the debtors business. Indeed, Inmarsat has not been paid for years. Ligado is getting extreme benefit without paying for it and post-petition the obligations continue. I expect the parties will have different points of view. Obviously, Judge, those are not issues for today as Mr. Leblanc said but issues that I expect will be brought to you shortly if not resolved.

So, Your Honor, I did want to make you aware of that. I think Mr. Leblanc did touch on it but, Your Honor, obviously, we see it very differently and more importantly, Your Honor, we see it as a creditor who has now worked with this debtor for quite some time. No good deed goes unpunished, Your Honor, we got surprised by a bankruptcy filing. We are owed about \$500 million and we continue to be owed money post-petition.

I just want to bring that to Your Honor's attention and we will see where it goes from here.

THE COURT: Thank you for the comments, Ms. Jones.

MS. DAVIS JONES: Thank you, Your Honor.

Appreciate it.

THE COURT: Mr. Leblanc. 1 2 MR. LEBLANC: Thank you, Your Honor. I welcome Ms. Jones. She and I have worked together for many decades. 3 I welcome her to this situation. I think she -- the comments 4 5 that it is a surprise when we have a deadline to pay them by 6 Friday, I think, will not bear themselves out but I am not 7 going to address that, Your Honor. Now is not the time to do 8 it but we will address all of those issues in due course. 9 So, Your Honor, unless the Court has any questions 10 with respect to the background I am going to turn now to the rest of the motions if that is alright with the Court. 11 12 THE COURT: Yes, please. 13 MR. LEBLANC: Your Honor, I will -- my colleague, 14 Abigail Debold is going to present the DIP motion and then we 15 will move through the rest of the agenda. We are going to 16 just use this same set up here. So, Ms. Debold is going to 17 come right to his podium if that is okay with the Court. 18 THE COURT: It is, of course. 19 MR. LEBLANC: Thank you, Your Honor. 20 THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. Leblanc. 21 Ms. Debold, welcome. 22 MS. DEBOLD: Good afternoon. 23 THE COURT: Good afternoon. 24 MS. DEBOLD: Good afternoon, Your Honor. Abigail

Debold of Milbank, proposed counsel for the debtors.

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Your Honor, today we are seeking interim approval of the proposed DIP financing and authorization for continued use of cash collateral. This is the motion filed at Docket No. 4 and Item No. 14 on the agenda. In support of the motion the debtors submitted the declaration of Bruce Mendelsohn, which is filed at Docket No. 6 and is listed as Item No. 14(i) on the agenda. Mr. Mendelsohn's DIP declaration has already been admitted into evidence for today's hearing. With that I will move into presenting the motion.

The parties have worked very hard to get to the point that we are at today with approximately 88 percent of our funded debt holders supporting the proposed DIP facility which is a key component of the broader restructuring transaction contemplated by the restructuring support agreement. All of the debtors first lien debt holders will be offered the opportunity to participate in the DIP. Your Honor has already heard some of these but I think it makes sense to illuminate the key features of the DIP facility.

The DIP facility is comprised of new money term loans in the principle amount of approximately \$442 million, \$12 of which would be available upon entry of the interim order and approximately \$327 million would be used upon entry of the final order to repay in full the debtors first out, first lien loan obligations. The remaining \$103 million

would be available in up to three draws following entry of the final order.

Also upon entry of the final order, approximately \$442 to \$497 million of the debtors first lien loan and notes obligations would roll up into DIP loans. The roll up would be on a one-to-one basis with the new money loans if all eligible lenders participate pro rata in the DIP and on a two to one basis for new money loans in excess of the lenders pro rata share of the DIP participation. Interest on the DIP facility is 17.5 percent paid in kind which is consistent with the debtors prepetition debt. The DIP facility includes a commitment fee of 5 percent paid in kind upon entry of the interim order, funding discount fees of 5 percent paid in kind upon each new money funding, and a 3 percent per annum unused commitment fee paid in kind monthly beginning January 31st.

Certain of the debtors existing lenders who are party to the RSA have committed to backstop the entirety of the DIP facility. Accordingly, there is also a 12.5 percent backstop fee to be paid in kind to the backstop parties on the amount of new money commitments upon entry of the interim order. The DIP loans will be secured by first priority liens in all of the debtors collateral. Additionally, the RSA provides for the conversion of the DIP facility into exit financing upon Ligado's emergence from Chapter 11.

At this point I think it would make sense to focus the discussion on the elements of the DIP that we actually need to resolve today at this interim hearing. For example, the rollup and the refinancing components of the DIP are subject to Your Honor's approval of the DIP on a final basis. That, essentially, leaves for today only the \$12 million interim draw, the DIP fees, and interim cash collateral use.

In connection with cash collateral use, the parties have agreed to provide adequate protection to the prepetition secured parties whose liens are being primed by the DIP liens, which includes adequate protection liens and claims, payment of professional fees and expenses, and the payment of PIK interest at the default rate to the holders of prepetition first lien debt.

The uncontested evidence is clear that this company needs immediate access to DIP financing and to cash collateral. As Mr. Mendelsohn has stated in his declaration, it is paramount for the debtors to obtain the funding necessary to, among other things, continue paying employees, meet their working capital needs, and fund expenses associated with these cases so that they can preserve and maximize the value of their estates.

Your Honor, for interim relief with respect to the DIP facility, the debtors are requesting immediate access to \$12 million in cash proceeds from the DIP. That amount

will provide the liquidity needed for the debtors to operate smoothly during the interim period. The debtors and their advisers believe that this amount, together with the use of cash collateral and the additional final new money DIP proceeds, should be enough to address their immediate liquidity needs and allow them to responsibly administer these Chapter 11 cases.

The debtors and the DIP lenders have also engaged in hard-fought negotiations over the terms of the budget and believe that it provides the debtors with the needed funds for operational expenses during these Chapter 11 cases. In addition, there are various milestones related to the restructuring transactions contemplated by the RSA, which are included as part of the DIP facility to ensure that the restructuring transactions are moving forward efficiently.

This DIP financing is on the best terms available to the debtors. Mr. Mendelsohn stated in his declaration that the debtors and their advisers conducted a prepetition marketing process to obtain DIP financing, and that, despite their best efforts, the only available financing came in the form of this DIP from the prepetition lenders. The debtors and their professionals tried to obtain DIP financing on better terms, but such financing was not available. As stated in Mr. Mendelsohn's declaration, the proposed DIP facility is the only option available to the debtors given

the debtors' financial situation and prepetition capital structure. There is simply no option for the debtors to obtain DIP financing on better terms.

The features of the DIP facility, including the interest rate, the fees, the rollup, and the first-out refinancing were all critical conditions that the DIP lenders insisted upon. No DIP financing is available to debtors in their current circumstances without these terms. However, I again want to note that the rollup and refinancing features of the DIP are not components for which we are seeking approval today.

Your Honor, this DIP facility represents the best and only option for post-petition financing, and it must be viewed in the context of how we got here. Our secured lenders have been funding the company for years through the super senior first-out term loans, notwithstanding the issues that the company has faced because of the actions of the Government. Portions of the first-out loans were effectively a pre-DIP DIP provided by our lenders. This DIP must also be viewed in the context of the broader restructuring under the RSA, which is supported by 88 percent of the funded debt, and material portions of the preferred equity. This RSA is highly unusual in that it provides for a restructuring that preserves the capital structure waterfall, which is highly beneficial for the company's stakeholders.

When viewed in this context and under these very unique circumstances, the terms of this DIP are appropriate.

The parties have also worked with Mr. Hackman to resolve the issues raised by the U.S. Trustee, and we believe that those issues have now been resolved. An amended form of order will be filed following the hearing reflecting a cleanup change to paragraph 22 to remove the reference to the USTP guidelines in that paragraph.

We therefore ask, subject to any comments that the Court may have, that Your Honor grant the motion on an interim basis so that the debtors may immediately access the new money under the DIP facility and continue using cash collateral before the final hearing, each of which is critical to the debtors' ability to preserve and maximize the value of their estate.

I'll pause here for any questions or comments that Your Honor may have.

THE COURT: Thank you, Ms. Debold.

Is there anybody who'd like to be heard regarding the request for interim approval of the DIP financing motion?

(No verbal response)

THE COURT: Okay, I hear no response.

So the only change that will be coming is to strike the language about not being required to comply with the USTP guidelines at paragraph 22?

MS. DEBOLD: That's correct.

THE COURT: Okay. Based upon that and the evidence before me, I do find that it's necessary to avoid immediate and irreparable harm that I approve the DIP financing motion on an interim basis. The debtors have demonstrated why it's an appropriate exercise of their business judgment to enter into these transactions and, for those reasons, I will grant the motion on an interim basis.

MS. DEBOLD: Thank you, Your Honor. I'll now turn the podium over to my colleague Tuvia Peretz to address the next item on the agenda, which is the cash management motion.

THE COURT: Thank you, Ms. Debold.

MR. PERETZ: Good afternoon, Your Honor. For the record, Tuvia Peretz of Milbank LLP.

Next on the agenda is Item Number 15, which is the debtors' cash management motion, filed at Docket Number 7.

The debtors are requesting to continue to operate their existing cash management system in the ordinary course, to pay related fees and credit cards, and to engage in intercompany transactions.

To facilitate the efficient operation of their business, the debtors use an integrated, centralized cash management system to collect, manage, disburse, and invest funds generated by their operations. The significant components of the debtors' cash management system are

outlined in Exhibit D attached to the motion, and the debtors' nine bank accounts are listed on Exhibit C.

The cash management system facilitates cash monitoring, forecasting, and reporting, and enables the debtors to maintain control over the administration of their bank accounts. The debtors use their bank accounts to organize and monitor cash flows across the corporate enterprise, and to centralize procurement and general admin and operating expenses. The debtors also maintain current and accurate accounting records of all their daily cash transactions.

In addition, the debtors are seeking a waiver of the requirements under Section 345 of the Bankruptcy Code, which the Bankruptcy Court may grant for cause.

There are two accounts at banks that are not authorized deposit -- on the authorized depository list. In the ordinary course of business, the debtors maintain one domestic investment account with Royal Bank of Canada, and one foreign bank account at Scotiabank. These bank accounts are vital to the debtors' cash management system, and requiring the debtors to transfer funds to other banks on the authorized depository list would be expensive and burdensome to the debtors' operations.

Both accounts are maintained at banks that are well-capitalized and highly rated and comparable to those

financial institutions included on the authorized depository list, and both have strong Moody's and S&P long-term debt and deposit ratings and general reputations in the banking market. The debtors also believe their investment policies satisfy the requirements of Section 345(a) and that sufficient cause exists to exempt the investment account from 345(b). The Scotiabank account is used for Canadian operational purposes and central to the Canadian operations and payroll.

For these reasons, the debtors believe a waiver of the requirements under Section 345(b) is appropriate.

We've also discussed the order with the Office of the United States Trustee, and shared the motion with the other two stakeholders. We've incorporated any comments received, but otherwise have not received any objections to the motion.

Unless Your Honor has any questions, we would ask that the proposed interim order be entered.

THE COURT: Okay. Is there anybody who would like to be heard regarding interim approval of the cash management motion?

(No verbal response)

THE COURT: Okay, I hear no response.

Based upon the record before me, I do find that the relief requested in the motion is appropriate and

warranted, and I will grant the motion on an interim basis.

MR. PERETZ: Thank you, Your Honor.

Moving on to the next item on the agenda, which is Item Number 16, the debtors' taxes and fees motion, which is filed at Docket Number 11.

The debtors request entry of interim and final orders authorizing the debtors to pay certain prepetition taxes and fees due and owing to taxing authorities that arise in the ordinary course. The debtors are requesting authority to pay, in the aggregate, up to \$55,000 in prepetition taxes and fees in the interim period, and to pay up to \$160,000 in prepetition taxes and fees during these cases.

In the ordinary course of business, the debtors collect, withhold, incur, and comply with a variety of taxes and tax obligations, including state use taxes, real and personal property taxes, franchise taxes, business taxes, reporting fees, and U.S. and Canadian regulatory fees, including the FCC.

The debtors believe that the relief requested in the taxes motion is necessary and appropriate because failure to pay these prepetition taxes and regulatory fees, and any other unpaid amounts owing to the applicable authorities, could materially and adversely impact the business.

Specifically, if the debtors were to delay paying prepetition taxes and fees, there's a risk taxing authorities would

1 assess penalties on past due amounts and increase the size of 2 the debtors' financial liability, or that governmental authorities would pursue claims against officers and 3 directors, or seek to retract valuable licenses. 4 5 Again, we've discussed the order with the Office 6 of the United States Trustee and shared the motion with key 7 stakeholders. We've incorporated any comments received, but otherwise have not received any objections. 8 9 Unless Your Honor has any questions on the taxes 10 and fees motion, we'd respectfully request that Your Honor enter the interim order. 11 12 THE COURT: Okay. Is there anybody who would like to be heard regarding the tax motion? 13 14 (No verbal response) 15 THE COURT: Okay, I hear no response. Based upon the evidentiary record before me, I do 16 17 find that the relief requested in the motion is warranted and I will approve it on an interim basis. 18 19 MR. PERETZ: Thank you very much, Your Honor. I'll now turn over the podium to my colleague Ms. Lee Sauer 20 21 for the next item on the agenda, which is the utilities 22 motion.

23 THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. Peretz.

Welcome, Ms. Sauer.

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MS. SAUER: Thank you. Good afternoon, Your

Honor, Danielle Lee Sauer of Milbank, proposed counsel to the debtors. I'll be handling Items 17 and 18 on the agenda for today's hearing, beginning with the utilities motion, which was filed at Docket Number 13.

By this motion, the debtors are seeking interim and final relief approving the proposed adequate assurance procedures as detailed in the motion and prohibiting utility companies from altering, refusing, or discontinuing services to the debtors.

In the ordinary course of business, Your Honor, the debtors obtain services directly from certain utility providers such as electricity and telecommunication services. Some of the debtors' utility services are billed directly to the debtors' landlords and passed through to the debtors in accordance with the applicable leases. In total, the debtors spend on average approximately \$140,000 per month on utility services.

As of the petition date, the debtors estimate that approximately \$54,800 in utility costs may be outstanding due to the timing of the commencement of these cases. And although the debtors expect to have sufficient liquidity to pay their utilities obligations, in order to provide additional adequate assurance of payment to utility companies, the debtors propose to deposit \$70,000 into a segregated bank account for the benefit of utility companies.

This number will cover one half of the projected postpetition monthly utilities costs, and the debtors propose
depositing that cash within 20 days after entry of the
interim order.

In addition, the debtors are seeking to institute procedures whereby utility companies may seek to request adequate assurance of payment exceeding the debtors' proposed amounts. These procedures are intended to streamline the process for addressing any potential concerns regarding the proposed adequate assurance and to provide for a more efficient process to do so.

In short, Your Honor, the relief requested in this motion is necessary because utility services are vital to the debtors' continued operations and success of these Chapter 11 cases. This motion and the proposed order were shared with the U.S. Trustee and the comments provided by the U.S. Trustee were incorporated prior to this hearing, and we've received no other objections.

Unless Your Honor has any other questions, the debtors respectfully ask that the Court enter the interim order attached to the utilities motion.

THE COURT: Okay. Is there anybody who would like to be heard regarding the utilities motion?

(No verbal response)

THE COURT: Okay, I hear no response.

Once again, based upon my review of the evidentiary record and having considered the relief requested in the motion, I do find that the procedures being proposed are standard in this district and there's nothing there that gives rise to any sort of concerns, so I'm happy to approve the motion on an interim basis.

MS. SAUER: Thank you, Your Honor.

I'll now move on to the next item on the agenda for this afternoon, which is the debtors' insurance motion that appears at Docket Number 14. By this motion, the debtors seek interim and final orders authorizing the debtors to, one, continue their insurance policies and surety bond programs, and, two, renew, revise, amend, supplement, extend, or enter into new insurance policies and surety bonds in the ordinary course.

In the ordinary course, the debtors maintain approximately 16 insurance policies with various third party carriers. The debtors make premium payments based upon a fixed rate established by each individual insurance carrier on an annual basis. The aggregate amount of insurance payments paid by the debtors totaled approximately \$7,133,611 in the 12 months preceding this filing. The debtors estimate that, as of the petition date, they do not owe any amounts on account of insurance premiums or other payment obligations related to the insurance policies.

The debtors also currently maintain two surety bonds in the ordinary course. As of the petition date, the debtors do not believe they owe any prepetition amounts on account of the surety bond programs, but out of an abundance of caution the debtors seek authority to continue to satisfy all amounts owed in connection with those programs.

As Your Honor knows, the Bankruptcy Code requires that the debtors maintain certain insurance coverage throughout the Chapter 11 cases, and it's really just sound business judgment for the debtors to maintain insurance policies, which are essential to the preservation of the value of their estates.

We previewed the motion and the order to the U.S. Trustee and implemented and added prior to this hearing, as we did with the utilities motion. We received no other objection.

So, unless Your Honor has any questions, the debtors respectfully request that the Court enter the interim order attached to the insurance motion.

THE COURT: Is there anyone who would like to be heard regarding the insurance motion?

(No verbal response)

THE COURT: Okay, I hear no response.

Again, based upon my view of the evidentiary record before me, I do find that the relief requested in the

motion is warranted and appropriate. It's necessary to maintain that insurance and certainly Mr. Hackman would have something to say about if the debtors failed to do so. So I am more than happy to approve the insurance motion on an interim basis.

MS. SAUER: Thank you, Your Honor. I will now turn the podium over to my colleague Jordan Rosen, who will present the balance of the motions on the agenda today.

THE COURT: Thank you, Ms. Sauer.

Good afternoon, Ms. Rosen.

MS. ROSEN: Good afternoon, Your Honor, Jordan Rosen of Milbank, as proposed counsel to the debtors.

The next item on the agenda is Item Number 19, the employee compensation and benefits motion, which was filed at Docket Number 15.

The debtors request entry of an interim order authorizing them to pay and honor prepetition obligations on account of compensation and benefits programs, and to maintain such programs in the ordinary course of business.

The Court has the authority to grant the requested relief pursuant to Sections 105(a) and 363 of the Bankruptcy Code.

The debtors have 80 employees who are employed on a full-time, part-time, and temporary basis, and who are based in both the United States and Canada. The debtors also regularly use the services of six independent contractors.

The employees and independent contractors perform various critical functions, are not easily replaced, and are essential to effective operations in Chapter 11 and a successful reorganization. The employees and independent contractors possess unique skills, experience, knowledge, and understanding of the debtors' business and operations.

At a high level, the compensation and benefits programs that the debtors seek to maintain include wages and salaries, payroll service fees, withholdings and payroll taxes, expense reimbursement, manager compensation, bonus and incentive programs; employee benefits programs including health insurance programs, other insurance and disability benefits, workers' compensation programs, paid leaves and other leaves of absence, 401(k) benefits, severance, and certain other benefits. It is essential that the debtors be able to continue the compensation and benefits programs, and make payments due and owing on account of such programs.

For the avoidance of doubt, Your Honor, the debtors are not seeking authority to make any payments to insiders under the bonus programs or severance programs, and the debtors will not pay any employee, independent contractor, or manager any prepetition amount over the statutory cap of \$15,150 per individual.

The debtors believe that, in their business judgment, the relief requested in the motion is necessary for

the continued uninterrupted operations and to preserve value for the debtors' estates. Absent the relief requested, the debtors would otherwise face severe threats to the successful operation of their businesses, including employee attrition and turnover, as well as the loss of employee morale, which would impair the debtors' ability to effectively continue their current operations.

The debtors have shared the motion with the United States Trustee and other key stakeholders, and the U.S.

Trustee had no comments to the proposed form of interim order.

So, unless Your Honor has any questions, the debtors respectfully request that the Court enter the proposed interim order.

THE COURT: Is there anyone who would like to be heard regarding the employee wage motion?

(No verbal response)

THE COURT: Okay, I hear no response.

Once again, based upon my review of the evidence,

I do find that it's appropriate that I enter this order on an
interim basis. Clearly, immediate and irreparable harm would
come to the debtors if I did not approve it because it's,
frankly, unthinkable that employees should be in a position
where they are not being fully paid for all the work that
they may have performed prepetition. So, therefore, I'm very

happy to grant this motion on an interim basis and I will do so.

MS. ROSEN: Thank you, Your Honor.

The next item on the agenda is Item Number 20, the redaction motion, which was filed at Docket Number 16.

Your Honor, this motion seeks authority to seal and redact certain personal information from the creditor matrix and other documents filed with this Court. The Court has the authority to grant the requested relief pursuant to Sections 107(c) and 105(a) of the Bankruptcy Code.

The debtors submit that cause exists to redact personally identifiable information from the debtors' filings due to concerns of identity theft, harassment, stalking, phishing scams, and other concerns. The debtors propose to file unredacted versions of all redacted filings under seal, and to also provide unredacted copies to the Court, the United States Trustee, counsel to the Ad Hoc Cross-Holder Group, and Ad Hoc First Lien Group, counsel to any official committee appointed, and any other party as the Court may direct.

We have shared drafts of the motion and order with the United States Trustee and other key stakeholders, and have incorporated any comments received.

So, unless Your Honor has any additional questions, the debtors request that the Court enter the

proposed form of order.

THE COURT: Okay, is there anybody who would like to be heard regarding this redaction motion?

(No verbal response)

THE COURT: Okay, I hear no response.

Again, based upon the evidence before me, I do find that it is appropriate to grant the relief requested here. And we see these sorts of motions typically on first days now, and I would note that the scope of redactions sought here are fairly modest and I certainly have no problems with what's being requested. So, therefore, I'm very happy to grant the motion.

MS. ROSEN: Thank you, Your Honor.

The next item on the agenda is Item Number 21, the foreign representative motion, which was filed at Docket Number 17.

Your Honor, this motion seeks authorization for Ligado Networks LLC to act as foreign representative of the debtors in any proceedings filed in any foreign country, authorization for Ligado Networks LLC to seek recognition by a Canadian court of the debtors' Chapter 11 cases and orders entered by this Court, and a request for the Canadian court to lend assistance to this Court. The Court has authority to grant the requested relief pursuant to Sections 1505 and 1107 of the Bankruptcy Code.

Your Honor, in addition to the operations in the United States, three of the debtors are incorporated in Canada: Ligado Networks Canada, Inc., Ligado Networks Corp., and Ligado Networks Holdings Canada, Inc. The debtors believe it will be necessary to commence ancillary proceedings in Canada pursuant to the Canadian Companies Creditors Arrangement Act, or CCAA. If appointed, Ligado Networks LLC intends to seek such relief in the Ontario Superior Court of Justice, and request that the Canadian court recognize these Chapter 11 cases as foreign main proceedings under the CCAA. However, in order to commence the CCAA proceedings the CCAA requires that the debtors receive authority from this Court to act as a foreign representative, as defined in the CCAA.

Your Honor, we've shared drafts of the motion and proposed order with the United States Trustee and other stakeholders, and have incorporated any comments received.

So, unless Your Honor has any questions, we respectfully request that the Court enter the proposed form of order.

THE COURT: Okay, is there anyone who would like to be heard regarding this motion?

(No verbal response)

THE COURT: Okay, I hear no response.

Again, I've considered the evidence before me, I have reviewed the motion, I've heard the argument on it, and,

under Section 1505 of the Bankruptcy Code, I do possess the 1 2 authority to grant the relief that the debtor is requesting. So I'm happy to go ahead and grant the motion. 3 MS. ROSEN: Thank you, Your Honor. 4 5 Now turning to the last item on the agenda, 6 Item 22, the Omni retention application, which was filed at 7 Docket Number 18. This application seeks appointment of Omni Agent Solutions as claims and noticing agent, effective as of 8 9 the petition date. The application is supported by the 10 declaration of Paul Deutch, executive vice president of Omni, attached as Exhibit B to the application. 11 12 At this time, the debtors request that the declaration be entered into evidence. 13 14 THE COURT: Okay. Does anybody object to the 15 admission of Mr. Deutch's declaration in support of Omni's retention? 16 17 (No verbal response) 18 THE COURT: Okay, I hear no response. 19 Is there anybody who'd like to cross-examine Mr. 20 Deutch? 21 (No verbal response) 22 THE COURT: I hear no response. 23 (Declaration of Paul Deutch received in evidence) 24 THE COURT: Okay, Ms. Rosen. 25 Thank you, Your Honor. MS. ROSEN:

The debtors submit that the retention of Omni as claims and noticing agent will ensure the efficient administration of these Chapter 11 cases while relieving the Clerk's Office of a material burden absent Omni's appointment. The Court has the authority to grant the requested relief pursuant to Section 156(c) of Title 28 of the United States Code and Local Rule 2002-1(f).

The debtors submit that Omni has both the

necessary qualifications and experience to serve as claims and noticing agent. As claims and noticing agent, Omni will assume full responsibility for the distribution of notices in these Chapter 11 cases, as well as the maintenance, processing, and docketing of proofs of claim.

We've shared drafts of the application and order with the United States Trustee and other stakeholders, and have incorporated comments that we've received from those parties.

Unless Your Honor has any additional questions, we respectfully request that the Court enter the proposed order granting the retention application.

THE COURT: Okay, is there anyone who wishes to be heard regarding the Omni retention application?

(No verbal response)

THE COURT: Okay, I hear no response.

Based upon the evidence before me, I do find that

the relief requested is warranted, and I will be happy to enter the order approving Omni's retention.

MS. ROSEN: Thank you, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Thank you.

MS. ROSEN: That concludes the items on the agenda. I'll now turn the podium back over to Mr. Leblanc.

THE COURT: Thank you very much.

MR. LEBLANC: Good afternoon, Your Honor, Andrew Leblanc of Milbank again on behalf of Ligado. Your Honor, that concludes our agenda. We appreciate very much Your Honor taking the time this afternoon.

Let me again extend our thanks to Mr. Hackman on behalf of the Office of the United States in making this go so smoothly for us and our team, it's really been a pleasure working with them, and with all of the stakeholders who have got us to this point to have this first day be fully consensual.

As a preview of coming attractions, Your Honor, I mentioned -- I think I may have said that we filed the breakup fee motion today, we actually filed it yesterday, Your Honor, that has been calendared by the Court for January 27th at 1:00 p.m. And then we have final hearings with respect to our first day relief scheduled on February 5th at 1:00 p.m. also.

So with that, Your Honor, we -- that's all we had

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1 today. Again, on behalf of the company and our team here at Milbank, we very much appreciate the Court's accommodation of 2 us today and, unless Your Honor has any questions, that's all 3 we have. 4 5 THE COURT: Thank you, I don't have any questions. Mr. Leblanc, I do want to thank you for including so many of 6 7 your colleagues in the presentations today. I really value having the opportunity to hear from the younger people at the firms, especially since they probably put in a lot of the 9 10 hours preparing those motions. So I'm really happy to --MR. LEBLANC: They certainly did, Your Honor. And 11 I'm sure, based on their presentations, you understand why we 12 felt totally comfortable doing that. 13 14 THE COURT: I do see that and I appreciate it very 15 much, Mr. Leblanc. Okay. 16 MR. LEBLANC: Thank you. 17 THE COURT: Well, thank you all very much and have 18 a good afternoon. 19 (Proceedings concluded at 3:22 p.m.) CERTIFICATION 20 We certify that the foregoing is a correct 21 transcript from the electronic sound recording of the 22 proceedings in the above-entitled matter to the best of our 23 knowledge and ability.

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/s/ William J. Garling

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1	William J. Garling, CET-543
2	Certified Court Transcriptionist
3	For Reliable
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5	/s/ Tracey J. Williams January 8, 2025
6	Tracey J. Williams, CET-914
7	Certified Court Transcriptionist
8	For Reliable
9	
10	/s/ Mary Zajaczkowski January 8, 2025
11	Mary Zajaczkowski, CET-531
12	Certified Court Transcriptionist
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